this would come to Rs. 18,000 crores. That is what we are actually doing. As far as the independent power producers are concerned, if they face any difficulty in selling power and if the House feels that whatever independent power producers come and generate power, if they fail to sell power because of some problem with the SEB, then the Central Government utilities must buy that power and they should suffer the loss, if this is the combined view of the House, the Government would consider it.

Rural development budget

*143. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of rural development budget to the total Central budget; and

(b) what was the percentage-wise allocation of this budget to States and UTs during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) The Central Plan outlay to the Ministry of Rural Development during 2001-2002 is 20.62% of the total Central Budget (gross Budgetary Support).

(b) The percentage-wise allocation of funds under the programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development to different States and UTs during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is given in the Statement.

Statement

Allocation of funds to State during 1999-2000 & 2000-2001 by the Ministry of Rural Development (percentage)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4
1.	ANDHRA PR.	6.86	7.55
2.	ARUNACHAL PR.	0.45	0.73
3.	ASSAM	4.29	6.13
4.	BIHAR	16.51	8.93
5.	CHHATISGARH	NA	3.26
6.	GOA	0.09	0.18

1	2	3	4
7.	GUJARAT	2.70	3.34
8.	HARYANA	1.31	1.11
9.	HIMACHAL PR.	0.78	1.15
10.	J & K	1.30	1.50
11.	JHARKHAND	NA	4.42
12.	KARNATAKA	4.74	4.35
13.	KERALA	2.18	2.18
14.	MADHYA PR.	8.62	6.63
15.	MAHARASHTRA	8.16	7.44
16.	MANIPUR	0.35	0.57
17.	MEGHALAYA	0.40	0.62
18.	MIZORAM	0.17	0.33
19.	NAGALAND	0.31	0.55
20.	ORISSA	5.74	5.91
21.	PUNJAB	0.69	0.82
22.	RAJASTHAN	4.74	6.27
23.	SIKKIM	0.14	0.19
24.	TAMIL NADU	4.99	4.49
25.	TRIPURA	0.52	0.84
26.	UTTAR PR.	17.11	13.59
27.	UTTARANCHAL	NA	1.13
28.	WEST BENGAL	6.67	5.60
29.	A & N ISLANDS	0.04	0.04
30.	CHANDIGARH	0.00	0.00
31.	D & N HAVELI	0.03	0.03
32.	DAMAN & DIU	0.02	0.02
33.	DELHI	0.04	0.04
34.	LAKSHADWEEP	0.02	0.02
35.	PONDICHERRY	0.04	0.04
	ALL INDIA	100.00	100.00

N.A.: Not Applicable

श्री राजनाथ सिंह 'सूर्य': सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने राज्यों में ग्रामीण और विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा रुपयों के आवंटन के बारे में सूचना दी है। यदि यह पूरी सूची है तो सूची को देखने से लगता है कि कुछ राज्यों को पिछले वर्ष की अपेक्षा अधिक राशि आवंटित की

गई है और कुछ राज्यों को कम आवंटित की गई है। जिन्हें कम आवंटित की गई है उनमें उत्तर प्रदेश भी है, यहां चार प्रतिशत की कमी हुई है...(व्यवधान)...

श्री बालकवि बैरागी: मध्य प्रदेश भी है।

श्री राजनाथ सिंह 'सूर्य': मध्य प्रदेश भी है। जिन्हें ज्यादा आवंटित की गई है उनमें राजस्थान, कर्नाटक और आन्ध्र प्रदेश हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री से जानना चाहता हूं कि इन्हें राशि आवंटित करने के क्या आधार हैं? जो तीन नये राज्य बने है, जिनमें अभी यह योजना लागू नहीं हुई है वहां यह कब तक लागू हो जाएगी?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, the entire budget of the Ministry of Rural Development is divided into two schemes, *i.e.* allocation-based schemes and project-based schemes. There is a certain criterion. We go by the poverty ratio. We also go by the utilisation of money allotted to that particular State. If they are able to spend the allocation made to them in the particular year, they will be eligible for the first instalment next year. If they have not spent the money during the said period, they would not be eligible for the remaining instalments. That is one of the reasons. As I have already said, the second scheme is project-based. Programmes like the Employment Assurance Scheme, JDSY, PSY, IMY, PMSY, Old Age pension Scheme, Family Welfare Scheme, Annapurna Scheme, ARWSP, CRSP, etc. these are all allocation-based schemes. The IWDP, the Drought-prone Area Development Programme, Desert Area Development Programme, special projects under Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yozana, rural building centres, housing schemes sector reforms, under the Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, are all project-based schemes. Unless the concerned State Government prepares a project and approaches the Central Government, we would not be able to provide them the needed allocation. That being the case, there is variation between different States. So far as the new States are concerned, the Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttaranchal States were created in the last financial year. So far as this year's allocation is concerned, it has been made separately and it has been communicated to the States. I will furnish the information to the hon. Member if he so desires about these three States.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह 'सूर्य': सभापति जी, यह जो मंत्री महोदय ने आंकड़े दिए हैं, उन आंकड़ों को देखने से ऐसा लगता है कि हमारा विचार तो ग्रामीण विकास के लिए अधिक है परन्तु धन का आवंटन उसके अनुरूप बहुत कम हो रहा है। यह मूल बजट से कितना आवंटित किया है, यह इसमें बताया गया है और उससे यह स्पष्ट है। इसके साथ-साथ मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि अगर कम धन का आवंटन है तो ग्रामीण विकास की हमारी जो कल्पना है, उसको कैसे पूरा किया जा सकता है? क्या इसको अन्य मंत्रालयों के साथ जोड़ कर, जो योजनायें चल रही हैं, उन योजनाओं को भी इसमें शामिल करते हुए इसके लिए धन का आवंटन बढ़ाने का प्रावधान किया जाएगा।

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, the hon. Minister has raised a very relevant question. Going by the fact that 70 per cent of the country's population lives in the rural areas, there is every need for an increased allocation to this sector. At the same time, I would like to share with the House that the rural development activities are taken up not only by my Ministry, but there are other Ministries also, like the Ministries of Communication, Health, Education, Power and other sectors, which take care of the rural needs. Keeping this in mind, recently, I took an initiative and held the first informal meeting with the Ministers of these Departments, namely, the Ministry of Communication, Power, Health, Education, Small-scale Sector Industry, Tourism and Culture. We sat together for nearly two hours and we discussed the present position of their departments *vis-a-vis* rural development, and to see what it is that we can do to accelerate the implementation of our programmes and also to raise additional resources for the sake of fulfilling the demands that are coming before us. With regard to the budgetary allocation, the factual situation is that, as far as the Government of India is concerned, within the total Central Budgetary support, the Rural Development Ministry is getting the highest allocation; that is, out of the total General Budget allocation of Rs. 59,456 crores, the Rural Development Ministry gets Rs. 12,265 crores. But, unfortunately, unlike the other Ministries, I have no other source of raising revenues; like, in the Ministry of Communication, though the Budgetary allocation is comparatively less, they have other ways of raising resources; that is, through bonds, through IEBR and so on. But, in the Rural Development Ministry, there is no scope for raising

resources, separately, through the Ministry. This is one factor which has to be kept in mind. As I said, we are also trying to impress upon the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry the need for a greater allocation to this sector because, even after 53 years of independence, there is a huge gap; I do admit it. We are trying our best to get additional allocation from the Government, to the extent possible. We all know about the limitations that the Government has. Keeping that in mind, I have, recently, taken the initiative of approaching the corporate sector reminding them about their responsibility towards rural development, and asked them to get involved in rural development activities, to the extent possible, say, in the matters of drinking water, sanitation, road connectivity, school building and community centres. I had a dialogue with the representatives of the Confederation of Indian Industry, ASSOCHAM and FICCI, and they were positive while responding to my suggestion that they should also take up some of these activities. And, we have created the National Rural Development Fund, contribution to which is totally exempt from tax. And we have also given them the facility that they can choose their area of activity and they can also have their choice of the executing agency, with the Government monitoring the schemes. There is a positive response to it. We have had two rounds of meetings, and they are supposed to come out with structured project programmes and then, we will pursue them. So, we will involve the corporate sector also in rural development activities in the future.

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडे: माननीय सभापति जी, आजादी के बाद से और आजादी के पहले से ही हम यही कहते रहे हैं कि, है अपना हिन्दुस्तान कहां, वह बसा है अपने गांवों में। पर इन गांवों की जो हालत है वह इतनी खराब है कि....

श्री सभापति: आप लम्बा सवाल मत कीजिए।

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडे: क्वेश्चन आवर खत्म होने वाला है, मैं एक ही प्रश्न करना चाहूंगी कि जो टोटल जीडीपी है, इसमें ग्रामीण विकास के लिए क्या आप और अधिक राशि आवंटित करने की योजना बना रहे हैं और महिलाओं के विकास की क्या आपके पास कुछ विशेष योजना है?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, unfortunately, even for answering this supplementary, there is shortage of time. With regard to the specific question raised by the hon. Member, there is a special scheme called the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, the programme called the self-help programme. This is the programme which is catching up throughout the country. In this programme, more than 60 to 70 per cent of the participants were women. We are putting more focus on them. Recently, we have taken initiative to have an All India Conference at Hyderabad where it was decided to have about 14 lakh self-help groups in the coming three years with a focus, particularly, on women and also the backward areas.

श्रीमती सरोज दुबे: अलग से बजट क्या दे रहे हैं आप?

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडे: महिलाओं के लिये अलग से बजट कितना है, यह नहीं बताया।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Foreign assistance for power sector

†*144. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in Dainik Jagran dated the 18th February, 2001, under the caption, "bijli ke liye das hazar karor ki videshi madad ke istemal ka intazar";

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the details of power projects which have not used the foreign assistance provided to them and the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As soon as a loan for a particular power project is made effective by an International donor, the entire amount is added

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.